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PATENTM

Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 7937.0002-04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

John KEANE et al.

Serial No.: 09/832,341

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: April 11, 2001

Examiner: Unknown

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR
MANAGING VIRTUAL
ADDRESSES FOR VIRTUAL
NETWORKSAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please replace the first paragraph with the following:

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/196,297, entitled "NETWORK ARCHITECTURE, SYSTEMS, AND METHODS," filed on April 12, 2000, the disclosure of which is expressly incorporated herein by reference in its entirety, and is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/814,178, entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGING AND CONFIGURING VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORKS," filed March 22, 2001, Attorney

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vv Docket No. 07937-0002, which is also expressly incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. The present invention also relates to U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,339, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PARTNERS IN VIRTUAL NETWORKS," filed April 11, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-04; U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,363, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR HAIRPINS IN VIRTUAL NETWORKS," filed April 11, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-02; U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,345, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PROVIDING NETWORK SERVICES USING AT LEAST ONE PROCESSOR INTERFACING A BASE NETWORK," filed April 11, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-06; U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,346, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR ENABLING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN A PROCESSOR AND A NETWORK OPERATIONS CENTER," filed April 11, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-07; and U.S. Patent Application No. 09/832,353, entitled "METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR AN EXTRANET," filed April 11, 2001, Attorney Docket No. 07937-0002-09; all of which are expressly incorporated herein by reference in their entirety and concurrently filed herewith the present application.

REMARKS

Applicants request entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination.

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